

Historical Floods: Potomac River at Hancock, Maryland

Latitude: 39.698

Flood Stage: 30 ft

Period of Record: 1889-Present

Last Flood: 9/8/1996

Longitude: -78.178

Number of Floods: 13

Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code
6/1/1889	40.00	220,000	Major	C1 C8
3/30/1924	32.40	130,000	Minor	C1 C4 C9
5/13/1924	35.00	160,000	Major	C1 C8
4/17/1929	30.30	110,000	Minor	C1 C8
3/18/1936	47.60	340,000	Major	C1
4/27/1937	35.70	153,000	Major	none
10/29/1937	31.80	122,000	Minor	none
10/16/1942	36.63	155,000	Major	none
8/19/1955	32.40	123,000	Minor	none
6/23/1972	30.79	112,000	Minor	none
11/6/1985	41.20	207,000	Major	none
1/20/1996	36.26	152,000	Major	none
9/8/1996	35.81	148,000	Major	none

Drainage Area: 4064 sq mi

Gage Datum: 383 ft MSL

Potomac Basin

County of Gage: Washington

County of Forecast Point: Washington

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-9999 signifies missing data

MARFC Codes

Code	Description
C1	Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in frequency calculations. Some of the floods are based on current flood stage and nearby gage information.
C2	Crest information looks reliable despite potential problems. This data was used in frequency calculations.
C3	Crest height estimated by the USGS.
C4	Crest height is from the National Weather Service.
C5	Crest height affected by backwater.
C6	Crest occurred at a previous flood stage that is lower than the current flood stage. The crests below the new flood stage are not used in flood frequency calculations.
C7	Crest from USGS yearly peak and/or date is different than the crest we provide. In many cases MARFC uses crest based on backwater or ice effects. Crest month or day of occurrence has been estimated by The Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center usually based on nearby gage information.
C8	Crest date (day) in the month is unknown.
C9	Flow is an estimate.
F1	Flow affected by regulation or diversion and in some cases to an unknown degree.
F2	Flow effected by snow-melt, ice jam or debris jam break up.
F3	Flow affected by dam failure.
F4	Flow - All or part of the record affected by urbanization, mining, agricultural changes, channelization or other factors.
F5	Gage height at a different site and/or datum.
G1	Gage is not an official USGS gage with crests provided by the NWS. Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in flood frequency calculations.
G2	Gage datum changed during this year.

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